Eastland Sees Plot in Police Killing

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Sen. James O. Eastland, D-Miss., said on Monday that the New Odleans sniper incident which began Sunday and resulted in the deaths of seven persons was "ample evidence that a nationwide conspiracy exists to kill policemen."

He was expected to introduce a bill making it a federal crime to assault law-enforcement officers and firemen.

"This bill would place the full force of the federal government into this war against policemen. The evidence is unmistakable that this is a war on policemen. We face a crisis in law enforcement unless we act immediately," Eastland said in a statement released here Monday.

Eastland said he possibly could introduce one or two other bills providing financial support for wounded or killed public servants and their families.

The other bills, Eastland said, would call for a federal payment of $50,000 to the families of law-enforcement officers and firemen killed in the line of duty and provide up to $50,000 in government-backed life and injury insurance for officers.

"These men are putting their lives on the line day after day. This nation owes them a debt of gratitude. We must take whatever steps are necessary to protect them from these attacks," he said.

Man Wounded By Policeman

A man was shot and wounded by police at the intersection of Canal and LaSalle Streets about 3:30 p.m. yesterday, but police said the incident was not related to the gun battle at the Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge a few blocks away.

The wounded man, identified only as James Parker, was shot in the thigh. He was reported to be in good condition at Chrity Hospital.

According to police, Parker attacked the policeman who shot him.